(c) by when Government would restart this plant; and

(d) the main reasons for closing it down?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently, the power generated from the project is being supplied to Delhi (15.97%), Chandigarh (0.53%), Haryana (13.27%), H.P. (2.47%), J&K (7.0%), Punjab (28.63%), Rajasthan (7.47%) and U.P. (14.73%), 9.93% of the power generated is un-allocated share with Government of India for allocation depending upon the requirements. As a result of this the beneficiary states could not draw their allocated power from the project.

(c) and (d) The recent shut down of Nathpa Jhakri Hydro-electric Project (1500 MW) on river Satluj in Himachal Pradesh followed the heavy rains and flash flood in the Satluj river due to breach in Pareechu Lake in Tibet, China. This caused abrupt rise in silt content in the river water much more than the permissible limit of 5000 PPM—on account of which the machines had to be closed down as a precautionary measures to protect them from damage.

The machines were completely closed from 25th June, 2005 to 13th July, 2005. The plant was restarted on 14th July, 2005 by generation with one unit of 250 MW, when the silt level in Satluj river was marginally above the permissible limit. The same was gradually increased upto 4 units by 25th July, 2005. Due to fluctuating silt content in Satluj river hovering near the permissible value, the number of units being operated varied from time to time and as on 17.08.2005, 4 units were being operated.

Generation of additional power by improving power generating projects

†3081. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 per cent additional power can be generated by making large scale improvement in power generating projects;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the present shortage of power can be removed through it;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and whether this measure is also inexpensive in comparison to establishing new generating projects; and

(e) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) and (b) Sufficient additional power can be generated by making improvements on large scale through Renovation and Modernization of existing power generating projects and by adopting modern Operation & Maintenance (O&M) practices.

(c) The present shortage of power can be mitigated to some extent by adopting modern O&M practices and through Renovation and Modernization & Uprating of existing old thermal and hydro power generating projects.

(d) and (e) Government of India accords priority to get additional power to fill the gap between demand and supply of power by adopting modern O&M practices and Renovation and Modernization & Uprating and Life Extension (LE) of existing old thermal and hydro power generating projects. Accordingly, it has been recognized as one of the most cost effective option by virtue of its short gestation period and low cost as compared to installation of a new project.

Dividend for the institution engaged in Power Sector

†3082. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government regarding earning dividend for the institution engaged in the work of electricity generation, transmission and distribution to consumers;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.